



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Chairman Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

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BOE Visits Retailers Statewide to Check Business Permits Retailers and Businesses Notified of SCOP Team Visits

Sacramento – Retailers and businesses in 34 California zip code areas can expect to receive letters from the Board of Equalization (BOE) notifying them about visits from Statewide Compliance and Outreach Program (SCOP) Teams. The purpose of the visits are to educate retailers and business owners on sales and use tax reporting responsibilities, increase tax compliance, and to help make the state's tax system fair and equal for all Californians.

“The goal of these visits is to reach out to business owners and help them comply with state requirements,” said BOE Chairman Jerome E. Horton. “The good news is we find 98 percent of all businesses complying.”

This month, 17,712 letters were sent to retailers and businesses in the following zip codes: Hawthorne (90250); Lawndale (90260); Sunset Beach (90742); Encino (91436); Pomona (91766); Hemet (92544); Moreno Valley (92555); Huntington Beach (92647, 92648, and 92649); Atascadero (93422); San Francisco (94112); Danville (94526); Mill Valley (94941); Wheatland (95692); Saratoga (95070); Marysville (95901); Browns Valley (95918); Brownsville (95919); Olivehurst (95961); Camptonville (95922); Dobbins (95935); Oregon House (95962); Smartsville (95977); Nicolaus (95659); Pleasant Grove (95668); Rio Oso (95674); Robbins (95676); Live Oak (95953); Meridian (95957); Sutter (95982); and Yuba City (95991, 95992, and 95993).

Since 2008, the BOE SCOP Teams have visited more than 311,878 businesses in 461 zip codes statewide to verify that retailers and businesses are registered and to make sure that noncompliant businesses do not have an unfair advantage over registered businesses that are reporting their sales and use taxes and/or fees to BOE.

Seven SCOP Teams located statewide (Oakland, Sacramento, San Jose, Van Nuys, Norwalk, Irvine and Riverside) conduct door-to-door in person visits based on zip code. They check seller's permits at stores and other known retail and business locations. Business owners are asked only business-related questions. SCOP Teams do not inquire about personal financial information. They check that registered retailers, as well as service industry businesses, have appropriate permits and licenses.

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Businesses found to be out of compliance are given instructions on how to register with the BOE and given information about other necessary licenses.

BOE has found that about 2 percent of businesses operating in California do so without permits or licenses that allow for collection of sales and use taxes and other taxes and fees. Noncompliance is a contributor to the more than \$2 billion sales and use “tax gap” – the difference between the amount of taxes owed and the amount of paid.

If business owners have questions, they may contact their local [BOE SCOP Team](#) in Oakland, Sacramento, San Jose, Van Nuys, Norwalk, Irvine or Riverside, or visit the [SCOP](#) website.

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Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization’s Legislative Committee Chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$50 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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